

Message Text

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USLOSACLANT

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6610

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: DRC MEETING NOVEMBER 27, 1974: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: A. USNATO 6499

B. STATE 255402 (NOTAL)

C. USNATO 6609

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING NOVEMBER 27 MEETING, DRC ACCEPTED US-PROPOSED REVISIONS TO RESOURCES KEY ELEMENT AND ASYG HUMPHREYS CIRCULATED REVISIONS TO COVER LETTER AND TO KEY ELEMENT ON DURATION AND INTENSITY OF HOSTILITIES WHICH SYG LUNS PROMISED AT NOVEMBER 26 DPC MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING NOVEMBER 27 MEETING, DRC REVISED FIRST PART OF PARA 1 ON RESOURCES KEY ELEMENT (ANNEX C, REF A) TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE:

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1. THE ASSUMPTION AS TO THE LEVEL OF RESOURCES LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE FOR DEFENCE PURPOSES IN NATO IS A CENTRAL FEATURE OF THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. IT ESTABLISHES A PROJECTED LEVEL OF RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS WHICH ALLOWS NATO

MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO SUBMIT FORCE PROPOSALS OFFERING A REASONABLE CHALLENGE TO NATIONS AND IT WILL PROVIDE ONE OF THE YARDSTICKS AGAINST WHICH NATO AUTHORITIES CAN MEASURE ALLIED EFFORTS. THE FORMULA INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT GUIDANCE IS THAT IT SHOULD BE ASSUMED THAT: END QUOTE.

MISSION COMMENT: US REP (BGEN BOWMAN) DREW FROM REF B IN REQUESTING THIS CHANGE. HE ORIGINALLY ASKED THAT LAST PART OF ADDITIONAL SENTENCE READ "...AND IT PROVIDES A YARDSTICK AGAINST WHICH NATO AUTHORITIES CAN MEASURE ALLIED FINANCIAL REPEAT FINANCIAL EFFORTS," BUT AFTER LENGTHY DRC DISCUSSION HE ACCEPTED LANGUAGE QUOTED ABOVE. END COMMENT.

2. DRC ADDED FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH BETWEEN EXISTING PARAS 5 AND 6 OF RESOURCES KEY ELEMENT (ANNEX C, REF A): BEGIN QUOTE: ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS FOR THE FORCE PLANNING PERIOD ARE NOT PROMISING. COUNTRIES SHOULD ADHERE STRICTLY TO PRIORITIES AND MAKE MAJOR EFFORTS FOR INCREASED COOPERATION IN THE ALLOCATION AND MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES. END QUOTE.

3. ASYG HUMPHREYS CIRCULATED FOLLOWING REVISION TO PARA 5 OF SYG LUNS COVER LETTER ON KEY ELEMENTS (REF A AND REF C, PARA 6).

BEGIN QUOTE:

5. MINISTERS MAY WISH TO HAVE A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE ALTERNATIVE VIEWPOINTS REFLECTED IN THESE DOCUMENTS. THEY MAY ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER THE OVERALL SCOPE AND FORMAT OF THE DOCUMENT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THEM NEXT SPRING, TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE "DIRECTIVE" FORM OF PREVIOUS GUIDANCE AS CALLED FOR BY THE CURRENTLY AGREED DEFENCE REVIEW PROCEDURES (DPC/D(71)10, 19TH MAY, 1971) AND THE BROADER APPROACH REPRESENTED BY THE "LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT" PROPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES (US DELEGATION LETTERS TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL DATED 17TH SEPTEMBER AND 21ST OCTOBER, 1974). END QUOTE.

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4. ASYG HUMPHREYS CIRCULATED FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL SECOND SENTENCE FOR PARA 7 (ANNEX B.2, REF A) KEY ELEMENT ON DURATION AND INTENSITY OF HOSTILITIES (REF C, PARA 8).

BEGIN QUOTE:

ON THE OTHER HAND, IN VIEW OF THE FORCE CAPABILITIES AS WELL AS THE NATURE OF OBJECTIVES OF THE WARSAW PACT THIS POSSIBILITY SEEMS TO BE UNLIKELY FOR THE SOUTH-EASTERN FLANK. END QUOTE.

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